



**INTERNATIONAL RESERVES: COMPOSITION AND
PERFORMANCE AS OF FEBRUARY 2006**

At the end of February 2006, the gross international reserves (GIR) amounted to USD 14 009,3 millions, USD 149,9 millions lower than the previous month. Its composition by asset class was as follows:

GROSS INTERNATIONAL RESERVES (millions of US\$)				
Asset	31.12.2004	30.12.2005	31.01.2006	28.02.2006
Deposits abroad	4304,9	4485,3	4627,7	4522,0
Securities	7487,8	8686,8	8525,0	8495,8
Gold	488,7	575,9	634,2	624,8
Others ^{1/}	367,5	371,6	372,3	366,7
TOTAL	12648,9	14119,6	14159,2	14009,3

^{1/} Includes subscriptions of capital to FLAR and credit balances from ALADI.

The book value of liquid international assets (see glossary) reached USD 13 333 millions, showing the following composition in terms of currencies, term to maturity and credit risk:

Currencies	%	Term to maturity	%	Long term rating ^{2/}	%
US\$	78,6	0-3 months	46,4	AAA	61,4
Other currencies ^{1/}	19,1	3-12 months	23,2	AA+ / AA / AA-	36,7
Gold	2,3	1-5 years	30,4	A+ / A	1,9

^{1/} Euros, sterling pounds and canadian dollars.

^{2/} Average rating from Fitch, Standard & Poor's and Moody's.

The Exchange Position, at the end of February 2006 reached US\$ 7 180 millions, its composition by currencies is the following: US dollars 55%, euros 31%, sterling pounds 4% and Canadian dollars 1%. The remaining percentage of 9% is invested in gold.

The total return based on actual book entries (see glossary) was 2,99% for the period March 2005 – February 2006, and excluding gold holdings was 3,11%. The average duration of the portfolio was 0,84 years at the end of January.

ANNEX 1: GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Gross International Reserves (GIR).- Central Bank's GIR¹ are composed mainly of deposits in foreign banks, foreign securities and bonds, gold holdings and any other internationally recognized means of payments such as coins and bills. It also includes subscriptions to international organizations, and the credit balance from the financial agreement signed with other Latin-American central banks as part of the Asociación Latinoamericana de Integración, ALADI².

Exchange Position.- Central Bank's Exchange Position is the difference of assets and liabilities in foreign exchange, both internationally and with residents. These assets could be diversified by currencies and gold.

Liquid International Assets.- The international assets which are under management and can be rapidly converted into cash. They are the result of excluding from the GIR subscriptions of capital to international financial organizations, such as Fondo Latinoamericano de Reservas (FLAR), credit balances from ALADI, and holdings of gold in Central Bank of Peru's vaults.

Total return based on actual book entries.- It is calculated as a quotient, in which the numerator considers interest earnings and profit/loss from securities sales; and the denominator, the average daily balances of deposits, securities and gold (abroad and in vaults), excluding the valuation effect from changes in exchange rates and the prices of gold and securities.

¹ The concept used by the Central Bank is consistent with the paragraph 424 of the Manual of the Balance of Payments, IMF, 5th Edition.

² For historic series, see in this web page Home/Statistics/Charts/Weekly Report Charts/ 23 "Concepts of international liquidity of the Central Bank of Peru".